2003 DRAFT FISHERIES RESOURCE MONITORING PLAN INTERAGENCY TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING

The attached tables summarize the draft Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan for 2003, which is now available for review. A total of 37 new projects are under consideration for funding.

These projects were first submitted as proposals during the winter, 2001-2002. The Interagency Technical Review Committee (TRC) screened these proposals, and selected projects were forwarded for development of Investigation Plans (IP's). The TRC recently reviewed these IP's, and made recommendations for funding by region based on assessment of strategic value, technical merit, administrative expertise, and capacity building. These recommendations provide the basis for the 2003 draft Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan. Draft plans by region will be presented to the Regional Advisory Councils for their review and comment during the upcoming fall meetings. The Federal Subsistence Board will finalize funding decisions during their December 2002 meeting.

A total of \$1,857,000 is available for new projects in 2003. Statewide, the TRC recommends funding for 30 projects, totaling \$1,827,000, in 2003. Recommended projects are a mix of both stock status and trends and harvest monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge projects.

The attached tables present a statewide summary (Tables 1-2), and regional tables by project category (Tables 3-11).

The Board welcomes your comments by October 15, 2002. These will be compiled along with the Regional Council comments and will be presented to the Board when it meets in December. Written comments may be submitted to:

USFWS Office of Subsistence Management Attn: Kathy Orzechowski 3601 C Street, Suite 1030 Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Telephone: 1-800-478-1456 Fax: 907-786-3612

e-mail: kathleen orzechowski@fws.gov